

Commissioner of Patents  
Serial No. 10/633,900  
Response Date April 20, 2005  
Reply to Office Action dated March 21, 2005  
Page 2

Group III. Claim 20, drawn to method of preventing glare by covering the  
sink classified in class 156, subclass 60.

In response, the Applicant provisionally elects Claims 8-19 of Group II and authorizes  
the cancellation of claims 1-7 and 20, with traverse.

Applicant respectfully submits that the similarities between the claimed inventions are  
such that searching for prior art in relation to the entire application would not be a serious burden  
on the Examiner. MPEP §803. Moreover, the Examiner is reminded that if this restriction  
requirement is maintained, it will have the effect of an admission on behalf of the Patent Office  
that (1) the Group I claims are patentable over the disclosure of the inventions of Groups II and  
III; (2) the Group II claims are patentable over the disclosure of the inventions of Groups I and  
III; and (3) the Group III claims are patentable over the disclosure of the inventions of Groups I  
and II. These positions are necessary for entry of the restriction requirement by the Patent Office  
and may be relied upon by Applicants during examination of this and any divisional or  
continuation application. MPEP §§ 802.01; 802.02; 803; 803.01; 806; 806.04(h); 806.05(f).  
Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the restriction requirement should be  
withdrawn because the similarities of the claimed invention are such that the burden on the  
Examiner to search the prior art for the entire application is minimal. MPEP §803.

In the event the Examiner determines to continue the restriction requirement, the  
Applicant requests that the Examiner provide the reasoning that the claims for Group II and  
Group III are distinct. The March 21, 2005 Office Action does not provide any reasoning in this  
regard.

Commissioner of Patents  
Serial No. 10/633,900  
Response Date April 20, 2005  
Reply to Office Action dated March 21, 2005  
Page 3

In the event Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need to petition for an extension of time or to pay an additional fee, Applicant conditionally petitions therefor, and authorize any fee deficiency to be charged to deposit account 09-0007. When doing so, please reference the above-listed docket number.

Respectfully submitted,

ICE MILLER

  
Alexander D. Forman, 51,691

ICE MILLER  
One American Square, Box 82001  
Indianapolis, IN 46282-0200  
Telephone: (317) 236-5826  
Facsimile: (317) 592-5433

Date: 4/20/05

ADF/ajp  
Enclosure: Fax Transmittal Sheet